

1    **Amendments to the Claims:**

2    This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

3    Listing of Claims:

1                   1 (currently amended): A device for applying a magnetic field to a microtiter  
2 plate, said device comprising:  
3                   a substrate; and  
4                   a plurality of magnetic elements disposed on said substrate, wherein said plurality  
5 of magnetic elements are arranged parallel to each other such that the centerline longitudinal axis  
6 of each magnetic element is approximately centered directly under an entire a row or column of  
7 wells of a microtiter plate when said microtiter plate is positioned upon the device.

1                   2 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein said substrate is comprised of a  
2 material selected from the group consisting of polymers, plastics, pyrex, quartz, resins, silicon,  
3 silica, silica-based materials, carbon, metals, inorganic glass and combinations thereof.

1                   3 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein said substrate is comprised of a  
2 material selected from the group consisting of organic, inorganic, biological, nonbiological  
3 materials and combinations thereof.

1                   4 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein said substrate is substantially disc-  
2 shaped, square-shaped, rectangle-shaped or combinations thereof.

1                   5 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein said substrate has substantially the  
2 same shape and size as said microtiter plate.

1                   6 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein the device comprises one magnetic  
2 element for each column of wells of the microtiter plate.

1                   7 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein the device comprises twenty-four  
2 magnetic elements and the longitudinal axis of each element is approximately centered under a  
3 column of wells of a 384-well microtiter plate.

1                   8 (original): The device of claim 6, wherein each magnetic element is  
2 approximately the same length of a column of wells of the microtiter plate.

1                   9 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein the device comprises one magnetic  
2 element for each row of wells of the microtiter plate.

1                   10 (original): The device of claim 9, wherein the device comprises sixteen  
2 magnetic elements and the longitudinal axis of each element is approximately centered under a  
3 row of wells of a 384-well microtiter plate.

1                   11 (original): The device of claim 9, wherein each magnetic element is  
2 approximately the same length of a row of wells of the microtiter plate.

1                   12 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein adjacent magnetic elements are in  
2 contact with each other.

1                   13 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein adjacent magnetic elements are  
2 separated from one another by a non-magnetic material.

1                   14 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein each magnetic element is  
2 approximately as wide as the diameter of a well of the microtiter plate.

1                   15 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein the device does not include a  
2 mechanism for horizontal circular translation of the microtiter plate.

1                   16 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein the device further comprises a  
2 microtiter plate positioned upon the magnetic elements.

1                   17 (original): The device of claim 16, wherein one or more wells of the  
2 microtiter plate contains a suspension of magnetic particles.

1                   18 (original): The device of claim 17, wherein the suspension comprises  
2 immunoassay reagents.

1                   19 (original): The device of claim 17, wherein the suspension comprises a  
2 primer extension reaction.

1                   20 (original): The device of claim 19, wherein the primer extension reaction is a  
2 DNA sequencing reaction.

1                   21 (original): The device of claim 19, wherein the suspension comprises dye-  
2 labeled molecules and a polymer into which dye-labeled molecules are incorporated, and  
3 particles that comprise a paramagnetic moiety and a porous hydrophobic material entrapped  
4 within a hydrophilic matrix.

22-25 (canceled)

1                   26 (new): The device of claim 1, wherein each of said magnetic elements is  
2 configured to form a magnetic field having a strength greater than approximately twelve Kgauss.